A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, September 23. 1708.

I Am a little broke off here from the Thread of publick Affairs, to give you 2 Inſtances of generous Honeſty in the World, a Thing ſo ſcarce in our Part of the World, that I muſt be excus'd to tell you, I think my ſelf bound to pay the Acknowledgment, without Reſpect to the Perſon, Perſwalion or Opinion of the Perſon concern'd.

Nor ſhall I ſcruple to own, that the Perſon, one of theſe Stories relates to, being a *Papiſt*, is no Manner of Objection to me, why I ſhould not acknowledge an Action done by him, that merits both Admiration and Imitation; but I make this ſhort Argument from it— If he being a *Papiſt* has done an Action, which thou O *Proteſtant* canſt not boaſt of, let that Religion thou profeſſeſt, and which thou ſo much boaſts of, be ſhown, by imitating the like Honeſty; for let our Pretences to Religion be what they will, tho' Honeſty is not Religion, yet there can be no Religion without it; and if a *Papiſt* here ſhall ſhame a *Proteſtant*, I cannot help it—I never offer'd to ſay, a *Papiſt* could not be an honeſt Man; I think, both *Papiſt* and profeſs'd *Jacobite* to be much honeſter than a Revolution Oath-taking *Jacobite*, who againſt his Principles takes the Oaths, and abjures his Friends, and then againſt his Oaths purſues his Principles, and betrays his Country; but that by the by, as to his 'Honeſty in Politicks——We are now upon another Sort of Honeſty, and my two Inſtances are remarkable enough.

I had for two Years together, as was to be ſeen in the Courſe of theſe Papers, a conſiderable Sum of Money committed to my Care by a Gentleman, who, tho' he truſted me with his Money, never would venture to truſt me with his Name, nor to this Day have I the leaſt Gueſs or Room to imagine, who the Perſon is from whom I receiv'd it.

The Directions I receiv'd, in order to the Diſpoſal of his Money, was to diſtribute it in Charity to ſuch poor Families, who being decay'd and reduced, numerous in Children, and in Want of Subſiſtance, or otherwiſe being in Diſtreſs, appear'd to be real Objects of Charity and Compaſſion. This Man of generous and true Chriſtian Charity was ſo far from letting his Right-Hand know what his Left-Hand did, that he not only would not tell me his Name, but would never receive or order any Body elſe to receive for him, or direct me how to ſend to him an Account how I had diſtributed his ſaid Money, tho' in Print I ſollicited him to do it.

Whether my Abſence from *England* has obſtructed the Continuance of his Charity or not, I know not, I hope, it has only cauſed it to run in ſome other Channel—However as I acted his faithful Almoner in the Caſe, and not only diſburs'd every Penny of his Money, and more too, which his generous Example led others to joyn to it; ſo, I think my ſelf bound to acquaint the World and this Gentleman of one Conſequence of his Charity, which may be ſeen in the following Letter.

SIR,

About three Years ſince, being reduc'd to great Miſery, and even ſo low as to want Neceſſaries, both to my ſelf and wretched Family, I receiv'd from your kind Hands, by the Recommendation of your late Father, the Sum of 30 *l. as a Part of ſome Money, which a charitable unknown Gentleman had given you, in Charge to diſtribute among ſuch poor decay'd Families as mine then was— I think my ſelf oblig'd to acknowledge to you, that it was then a very great Relief to me, and particularly to my Spirits, which were quite dejected and caſt down under my Afflictions; But this is not all, it has pleas'd GOD ſince that to change my Circumſtances, and to bring me, by Steps too long to trouble you with, to a very plentiful Condition; and therefore in Remembrance of the Gift I had of that good Perſon unknown by your Means, I have herewith return'd it to you doubled, the Money to be diſpos'd of, as the ſame charitable Perſon ſhall appoint you; and in Default of his giving you any Directions, to the ſame Uſes which he directed you to diſpoſe the former Sums to, of which this was a Part.*

I am

Your moſt humble Servant.

A. A.

This is not a very common Principle of this Age, and therefore however ſmall the Charity was, the Return made ſavours of a true Spirit, both of Honeſty and Generoſity, and I thought my ſelf oblig'd to publiſh ſomething of it for two Reaſons.

1. To encourage the Imitation both of the Charity and of the Return; both which merit our utmoſt Acknowledgment.

   To give this Notice to the Gentleman from whom this Charity came, that if he pleaſes, he may ſignifie to me, how he deſires, I ſhall diſpoſe of the little increaſs'd Bank now left in my Hands, and which I ſhall think my ſelf oblig'd to keep in my Hands, till I hear farther from him.

The other Inſtance ſhall follow in our next.

MISCELLANEA.

I Have in this Paper gone thro' the Matters of Fact in the Affair of the *Episcopal* Clergy in *Scotland*; I have impartially and without any Reflections on either Hand set down the Proceedings on either side, the Libel, or Indictment, and the Answers, general and particular, with the Result of the said Proceedings, and the Magistrates Resolution or Sentence; Upon the whole, I am now to tell you, that in some particular Counties where the like Liberty of *Jacobite* Conventicles had been made use of, the like Orders of Proceedings have been directed, tho' not with the same Justice executed, and I am willing to give you as full an Account of the Proceedings on this Occasion in every Place as I can, that from the Matter of Fact a true Light may be had; and all that can be alledg'd against the Governments Proceedings, may first be collected, that the Enemy, who covet most to quarrel at these Things, in *England* I mean, may not want full Scope, and all the Materials possible, and they shall receive their due and full Consideration afterward, I hope to Satisfaction.

You are then to understand, that there being private Meetings of the *Non-Jurant* or *Episcopal* Party set up in several other Parts of the Kingdom, and particularly at *Dalkeith*, the like Proceedings have been directed to the proper Officers for the suppressing the same; and because the Libel against this particular Meeting at *Dalkeith* insists very much upon the Laws in Force, requiring the Ministers to pray for the Sovereign *Nominatim*, which the Gentlemen alledg'd they were not oblig'd to; therefore I shall give you in my next the exact Copy of the said Libel, and shall then speak to the whole, and hope, when this Affair is finish'd, it may serve for a little History of the so much fam'd Persecution in *Scotland*, and of which so much Noise has been made.

It is no doubt true, these Gentlemen have been deposed as *Episcopal*, and perhaps our Gentlemen in *England* will call that Persecution; there is no question but as *Episcopal*, they differ from the Establish'd Church, and ever will do so——But the Question before us, *as I conceive it*, is, whether, *as Episcopal*, their Meetings have been shut up, and they have been forbid to preach, hindred to exercise their Ministerial Function, and clapt up into Prison, or no? if this be not prov'd, it will seem to me very hard to prove, they are persecuted for Dissenting from the Church—— If it only amounts to this, that they are proceeded against for Disaffection to the Government, refusing to take the Oaths which the Law enjoyns, that is in short, refusing to acknowledge the QUEEN, or to pray for her in their publick Service, which both the Law of God enjoyns; let any Church of *England* Man call this Persecution at his Peril; if he does, he ought to be indicted for a Plot against the Church of *England*, endeavouring by oblique Trains, Parallels and Circumlocutions, to bring her in as of persecuting Principles, and guilty of Cruelty and unchristian Usage to her *Non Jurant Jacobite* Clergy, whom she has treated in a far worse Manner, than the *Episcopal* Clergy in *Scotland* are treated; and this Thought I humbly recommend to our two *Northern* Prelates next Neighbours to *Scotland*, and particularly to the Clergy of *D*————*m*, who have lately made such a mighty Clamour upon the *English Dissenters*, for, as they call it, the Cruelty of the *Presbyterians* in *Scotland* to the Dissenting Clergy there.

In our next we shall present you with a Draught of her Majesty's Letter, from which this Liberty was taken by the *Episcopal* Ministers in *Scotland*; and with the Libel above-mention'd; and tho' these Things may pall the Fancy of those People, who look for a constant Diversion in these Papers, they must bear with the Disappointment, in Behalf of those that are enquiring after Truth, and want an exact History of these Matters.

ADVER.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Lately Publiſhd,

A New Deſcription of the World, delineating *Europe*, *Aſia*, *Africa*, and *America*; with a Map and Tables of the Empires, Kingdoms, Provinces, and Cities therein, together with a Chronological and Hiſtorical Account of the Emperors, Kings, Princes, Governments, Religion, Languages, Cuſtoms, Commodities, Revolutions, and Rareties thereof. By *H. Curſon*, Gent. Sold by *John Morphew*, near *Stationers-Hall*. (Price 2 *s.*)

Theſe are to give Notice,

THat *MARY KIRLEUS*, the Widow of *JOHN KIRLEUS*, Son of Dr. *THO. KIRLEUS*, a Sworn-Phyſician, in Ordinary to King *Charles* II. Sells (rightly prepar'd) his Famous Drink and Pills; experienc'd above 50 Years (by an uncommon Method) to cure all Ulcers, Sores, Scabs, Itch, Scurf, Scurvies, Leproſies, Running of the Reins, and the moſt inveterate VENEREAL Diſeaſe, with all its attending Symptoms, without Fluxing, Confinement, or deſtructive Mercurial Preparations: Theſe incomparable Medicines need no Words to expreſs their Virtues; the many miſerable Ones that have been happily cured, after given over by others, ſufficiently recommend them as the moſt ſovereign Remedy in the World againſt all Sch Malignities: She cures many after ſuuxing, and in Compaſſion to the Diſtreſſed. ſtill deal according to the Patient's Ability The Drink is 3 *s.* the Quart, the Pill 1 *s.* the Box with Directions, and Advice *Gratis*. *NOTE*, The Patient may be effectually cur'd by ſending his Grief in Writing.

†+† *She lives at the Golden-Ball in Hand-Court, over againſt great Turnſtile in Holborn.*

THE Famous LOZENGES, being effectual in all Scorbutick Caſes; they eaſe Pains in the Head and Stomach, cauſe a good Appetite, purifie the Blood, and give ſpeedy Relief in Rheumatiſms, Dropſie, and Gout, and totally deſtroy the very Seed of Worms.

They cure Agues and Fevers of all Sorts, give preſent Eaſe in the Cholick, Stone and Gravel, cleanſe the Body after hard Drinking; as alſo after the Small-Pox, Meaſles, and Child-bearing, and are a more general Gathartick Medicine than any yet known.

Prepar'd only by *R. Owner*, Apothecary, at the Peſtle and Mortar, in *Eaſt Smithfield*.

BARTLETT's Inventions for the Cure of Ruptures, which have gain'd So Univerſal Eſteem, are now, yet farther Improv'd to ſo great a Nicety, that one of his Steel Spring Truſſes of the largeſt Size, ſeldom Exceeds 4 ounces in Weight, and one of the ſmalleſt rarely exceeds a quarter of an Ounce, and are ſo well adapted to the ſhapes of human Bodies, that they are extraordinary eaſy even to Infants of a Day Old, and Intirely keep up the Ruptures of what Bigneſs ſoever. Alſo divers Inſtruments to help the Weak and Crooked. By P. Bartlet at the Golden Ball by the Ship Tavern in Preſcot Street in Goodmans Fields, London.

NOTE, He forges and finiſhes his Truſſes himſelf, by which means he daily Improves his Inventions.

☞ I *Thomas Pritchard*, at the *Saracens-Head* in *Little Carter Lane*, near St. *Paul's*, *London*, having a Son who had a very bad Rupture, and applying to Mr. *Bartlett*, at the *Golden Ball* in *Preſcot-ſtreet* in *Goodman's-Fields*, *London*, He perform'd the Cure in four Days to my great Surprize, and my Son has remain'd well ever ſince.

This is to give Notice, that I *Richard Baker*, of *Lawrence-Poltneys Lane*, *Cannonſtreet*, *London*, having had a Rupture for about fifty Years; at laſt I apply'd my ſelf to the late Mr. *Chriſtopher Bartlett*, at the *Golden Ball* by the Tavern in *Preſcot-ſtreet* in *Goodman's-Fields*; who, by his ingenious Invention of Spring-Truſſes and Rupture Spirits, with the Bleſſing of GOD, made a perfect Cure in about eight Months, and I have been perfectly well ever ſince, which is about four or five Years.

NOTE, His Son *P. Bartlett* lives at the ſame Place as above-mention'd, and carries on the ſame Buſineſs, as his Father did; having been by him thoroughly Inſtructed therein.